DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 455 327 UD 034 309

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TITLE	Relative/Outsider: The Art and Politics of Identity among Mixed Heritage Students. Contemporary Studies in Social and Policy Issues in Education: The David C. Anchin Center Series.
ISBN	ISBN-1-56750-551-1
PUB DATE	2001-00-00
NOTE	184p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Ablex Publishing, 88 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06881 ($34.95). Web site: http://www.ablexbooks.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Reports - Research (143) -- Tests/Questionnaires (160)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	College Students; Cultural Differences; Cultural Influences; Diversity (Student); *Ethnicity; High School Students; High Schools; Higher Education; *Multiracial Persons; *Racial Identification
IDENTIFIERS	Multiracial Family

ABSTRACT

Exploring ethnic and racial identity formation among high school and college students of racially mixed heritage, this book examines the dynamic ethnic and racial lives of a multifaceted and growing segment of students. Data come from surveys with students at a public high school and a private university in the San Francisco, California area. Participating students represent a vast array of heritages, including those with dual minority ancestry. The students' stories speak about the uneven nature of racial and ethnic experiences within and across traditional communities in contemporary U.S. society. The book examines the cultural dynamics of the home and considers processes of enculturation and discourse acquisition in the development of ethnic identity. It helps to frame how changes within the U.S. racial ecology lead many recently mixed heritage people to see themselves as occupying "(un)common" ground. Finally, the book offers recommendations for educators concerned with creating school contexts that are critically supportive of human diversity. Three appendixes present the race-ethnicity survey, the recruitment flyer, and expressive autobiographical interview probes. (Contains 97 references.) (SM)

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